USDA Forest Service Lolo National Forest Superior Ranger District

Scoping - Opportunity to Provide Input Cruzane Mountain Project

The Lolo National Forest is seeking public input on the proposed action to move the Cruzane Mountain project area towards to desired conditions outlined in the Lolo National Forest Plan. This 3,790-acre project area is located on the Superior Ranger District, approximately 3 miles west of Haugen in Mineral County, Montana and just northeast of the community of Saltese. The purposes of the Cruzane project are to address past and current insect and disease impacts that have increased the risk of severe wildfire within the project area. In order to support a more healthy and resilient forest in the future, there is a need to manage forest species composition, improve the genetic quality of the forest, and address the increased amount of fuels that have accumulated in the proiect area as a result of forest health impacts and lack of fire activity.

The Forest is proposing to implement commercial and non-commercial vegetation management, which includes fuel management treatments, on approximately 1,615 acres within the Cruzane Mountain project area. Additionally, we are proposing to complete prescribed burning on approxi-

mately 1,160 acres.

Please provide your comments within 30 days beginning the day after the publication of this notice. The Forest is also seeking Regional Forester approval to harvest areas larger than 40 acres (Forest Service) Manual Chapter 2470, Supplement No. R1 2400-2016-1, 2016). This request for public input also initiates the 60-day public notice required to seek approval for this portion of the proposed action.

For more information or assistance obtaining project information, please 406-329-3480 contact Liz Tichner at or elizabeth.tichner@usda.gov. Proposed action maps and description of proposed activities can be found on the project website:

https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=56156

To submit comments, please send written/typed responses to Superior Ranger District, Attn: Carole Johnson, 209 W. Riverside Ave, Superior, email: comments-northern-lolo-superior@fs.fed.us 59872. or 'Cruzane Mountain Project' in the subject line.

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